

An examiner's amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jason S. Jackson (Reg. No. 56,733) on March 09, 2008.

1. In the specification:

- Please delete the phrase "which may be found at
<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2151.txt>" in page 9, lines 5-6.
- Please delete the phrase "which may be found at
<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2535.txt>" in page 9, lines 7.
- Please delete the phrase "which may be found at
<http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0954.txt>" in page 9, lines 8-9

2. In the claims:

- Please amend the claims as attached (see page 4-7)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 571-272-3947. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is

Art Unit: 2153

assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or public PAIR system. Status information for unpublished applications is available through private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

YB

Art Unit 2153

/Yasin M Barqadle/
Examiner, Art Unit 2153

Claims 1-61 (Canceled)

62. (Currently Amended) A method for determining a geographic location of an Internet user, comprising:

- a. receiving at least one of an IP address, a host name, or a domain name associated with the Internet user;
- b. obtaining one or more intermediate hosts of a route that connects a source to the Internet user;
- c. storing in a first database a plurality of geographic names and a plurality of variations for each of the plurality of geographic names;
- d. determining a geographic location for the one or more intermediate hosts of the route by performing the steps of:
 - i. determining a geographic naming information for the intermediate host;
 - ii. comparing at least a part of the determined geographic naming information for the intermediate host to one or more of the plurality of variations of geographic names stored in the first database;
 - iii. determining a geographic location of the intermediate host based on the comparison; and
- e. assigning a confidence level to the determined geographic location of the one or more intermediate hosts;
[e.] f. determining the geographic location of the Internet user comprising a city of the Internet user using the route, and the determined geographic location of the one or more intermediate hosts, hosts, and the confidence level assigned to the determined geographic location of the one or more intermediate hosts;
- g. assigning a confidence level to the determined geographic location of the Internet user; and

h. storing the geographic location of the Internet user and the confidence level assigned to the determined geographic location of the Internet user in a second database.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, wherein determining a geographic naming information for the intermediate host comprises determining a host name information for the intermediate host.

Claims 64-67 (Canceled)

68. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[67]] 62, further comprising determining a geographic location of an entity that owns the IP address, host name, or domain name.

69. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[67]] 62, further comprising verifying one or more of the IP address, host name, or the domain name that is associated with the Internet user.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[67]] 62, wherein obtaining one or more intermediate hosts of a route comprises obtaining one or more intermediate hosts of a route that connects a source to the Internet user by performing a traceroute.

71. (Canceled)

72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently Amended) A method for determining a geographic location of an Internet user, comprising:

- a. receiving at least one of an IP address, host name, or domain name associated with the Internet user;

- b. obtaining one or more intermediate hosts of a route that connects a source to the Internet user;
- c. storing in a first database a plurality of geographic names and a plurality of variations for each of the plurality of geographic names;
- d. determining a geographic location for the one or more intermediate hosts of the route by performing the steps of:
 - i. determining a geographic naming information for the intermediate host;
 - ii. comparing at least a part of the determined geographic naming information to one or more of the plurality of variations of geographic names stored in the first database;
 - 1. if the comparison results in a match between the determined geographic naming information and at least one variation of a first geographic name stored in the first database, determining the geographic location of the intermediate host using the first geographic name;
 - 2. if the comparison does not result in a match between the determined geographic naming information and at least one variation of a first geographic name stored in the first database, determining the geographic location of the intermediate host using one or more other intermediate hosts of the route;
- e. assigning a confidence level to the determined geographic location of the one or more intermediate hosts;
[e] f. determining the geographic location of the Internet user comprising a city of the Internet user using the route, and the determined geographic location of the one or more intermediate hosts, and the confidence level assigned to the determined

- geographic location of the one or more intermediate hosts;
- g. assigning a confidence level to the determined geographic location of the Internet user; and
- h. storing the geographic location of the Internet user and the confidence level assigned to the determined geographic location of the Internet user in a second database.

Claims 74-77 (Canceled)

78. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[77]] 73, further comprising verifying that at least one of the IP address, host name, or the domain name is associated with the Internet user

79. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[77]] 73, wherein determining a geographic naming information for the intermediate host comprises determining host name information for the intermediate host.

80. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[77]] 73, further comprising determining a geographic address of an entity that owns the IP address, host name, or domain name.

81. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[77]] 73, wherein obtaining one or more intermediate hosts of a route comprises obtaining one or more intermediate hosts a route that connects a source to the Internet user by performing a traceroute.

82-83. (Canceled)